

PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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Madison, Wisconsin -- Stephen P. Sinnott, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Joseph N. Russo, DOB 1/28/1963, of Hurley, Wisconsin, was sentenced today by U.S. District Judge John B. Shabaz to 110 months in prison for being a felon in possession of firearms. In imposing the sentence, the judge commented that Russo had been undeterred by prior convictions and punishment over the past fifteen years. The court also enhanced Russo's sentence because of false affidavits and testimony submitted by Russo to the court in an attempt to mislead the court and obtain suppression of evidence.

On January 31, 2006, following a one-day jury trial in federal court in Madison, a jury found Russo responsible for possessing three guns found in his home on May 30, 2004. The jury deliberated approximately 90 minutes before reaching the verdict.

The charge against Joseph Russo was the result of an investigation conducted by the Hurley Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert A. Anderson.

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